## JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION Statement to be included in Transcript of Public Hearings

## Retired Judge

Full Name:

Charles Victor Pyle, Jr.

**Business Address:** 

205 E. North St., Ste 118,

Greenville, SC 29601

Business Telephone:

864-467-8751

- 1. Have you met the Constitutional or statutory requirements for this position regarding age, residence, and years of practice? Yes
- 2. Have you met the mandatory minimum hours requirement for continuing legal education courses? Yes
- 3. Do you have any plans to return to private practice one day? No
- 4. Are you engaged in any legal activities other than your service as a retired judge, such as acting as an arbitrator or mediator? No
- 5. Are you involved in any active investments from which you derive additional income that might impair your appearance of impartiality? No
- Do you belong to any organizations that discriminate based on race, religion, or gender? No
- 7. Have you engaged in any partisan political activity since your retirement? No
- 8. What do you feel is the appropriate demeanor for a judge?

  Courteous, but firm dealings with litigants, criminal defendants, and attorneys.
- 9. In your position as a retired judge, what methods do you employ to ensure that deadlines for the timely issuance of orders are met?

As a retired/active judge, I try only civil and criminal jury trial cases and it is rare that I have to sign an order. When I do so, it is signed within 30 days.

10. Do you feel that it is ever appropriate to be angry with a member of the public, especially with a criminal defendant? Is anger ever appropriate in dealing with attorneys?

Yes, if a criminal defendant disrupts court. With attorneys, no to anger, yes as to frustration.

11. How would you handle a situation in which you became aware of misconduct of a lawyer or fellow judge?

Report he/she to the appropriate commission.

12. What is your philosophy on recusal, especially in situations in which lawyer-legislators, former associates, or law clerks are to appear before you?

If I feel there is/was an appearance of impropriety, I would disclose the fact, and if asked to recuse, I would do so.

13. What is your philosophy regarding *ex parte* communications? Are there circumstances under which you could envision *ex parte* communications being tolerated?

Question one: They are prohibited by the Judicial code of conduct and I comply with it. Question two: No.

- 14. If you disclosed something that had the appearance of bias, but you believed it would not actually prejudice your impartiality, what deference would you give a party that requested your recusal? Would you grant such a motion? Yes.
- 15. What standards have you set for yourself regarding the acceptance of gifts or social hospitality?

I accept ordinary social hospitality from friends, including lawyer friends, not gifts.

16. In order that we might advise court administration on steps that need to be taken, are there any limitations on your sight, hearing, or mobility that should be addressed by the court administrator?

No. I have just had cataracts removed from both eyes and purchased \$6000.00 hearing aids! I may have to have a knee replacement in the near future.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

s/Charles Victor Pyle, Jr.
Sworn to before me this 19th day of July, 2011.
Notary Public for S.C.
My Commission Expires: 3/16/2017